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Department of State

EXDIS

INCOMING TELEGRAM

(78)

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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 AOS-00 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00
H-01 IO-14 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 SY-05 HA-05
PM-09 PA-01 OCT-02 INRE-00 SYE-00 SP-02 SPRS-02
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O 092358Z APR 81 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIACT IMMEDIATE 3268
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE
AMMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE 4339
AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PAN//INTAFF IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 2709

USICA FOR AR-DACHI

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO OTHER ARA AND EUR POSTS AS REQUIRED

E. O. 12065: GDS 4/9/87 (HALLMAN, WILLIAM H.) OR-P
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SNUM, ES
SUBJ: KILLINGS IN SOYAPANGO

REF: A) SAN SALVADOR 2656; B) SAN SALVADOR 2668; C) SAN SALVADOR 2696

1. (U) AT HIS 1100 PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY 4/9 TREASURY POLICE COMMANDER MORAN ASSERTED THAT THROUGH PEOPLE THAT HIS ORGANIZATION HAS INFILTRATED INTO TERRORIST GROUPS HE HAD LEARNED THAT THERE WAS TO BE A VERY IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE ERP AND THE FPL TO COORDINATE ACTION IN SAN SALVADOR. IT WAS AT THAT TIME MORAN SAID THAT A RAID WAS PLANNED (FOR APRIL 7) TO CAPTURE THESE LEADERS AT THE PLACE OF THEIR MEETING. THESE PLANS HOWEVER WERE THWARTED BECAUSE OF THE SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE TERRORISTS. MORAN ASSERTED THAT EACH OF THE GUERRILLA CHIEFS HAD AT HIS SIDE MORE SECURITY ("ABOUT 60") THAN EVEN HIS OWN UNITS ("ABOUT 20") AND IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT HIS TROOPS HAD TO WITHDRAW AFTER THE SHOOTOUT. THERE WAS ALSO THE PROBLEM, MORAN SAID, THAT THE TREASURY POLICE HAD THEMSELVES TAKEN SEVERAL HITS. MORAN ALLEGES THAT IT WAS AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL OF HIS TROOPS THAT THE TERRORISTS THEMSELVES TOOK BODIES INTO THE STREET TO ARRANGE THEM IN ORDER TO APPEAR THAT SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT HAD TAKEN PLACE.

2. (U) MORAN SAYS THAT ALTHOUGH THE TREASURY POLICE DID NOT SUCCEED IN CAPTURING ANYONE, THERE WERE CAPTURED INSIDE ONE OF THE SAFE HOUSE BEING USED FOR THE MEETING A NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS WHICH THE TERRORISTS WERE UNABLE TO TAK WITH THEM. MORAN SPECUALTED THAT PERHAPS THE DOCUMENTS WERE OVER-LOOKED IN EFFORTS TO CARRY AWAY THE BODIES OF SOME OF THE TERRORISTS WHO HAD BEEN KILLED OR WOUNDED DURING THE CONFRONTATION HE ALSO SAID THAT A NUMBER OF WEAPONS WAS TAKEN FROM THE HOUSE.

3. (U) MORAN ALSO ASSERTED THAT ONE OF THE CAPTURED DOCUMENTS IN THE HOUSE LED THE TREASURY POLICE TO BELIEVE THAT A WOMAN WHO WORKS IN ONE OF THE PUBLIC MARKETS WAS TO BE ASSASSINATED BY THE TERRORIST GROUPS AND THAT ALTHOUGH THEY HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO DISCOVER THE NAME, A SPECIAL GUARD HAD BEEN SENT TO THAT MARKET.

4. (U) WITH REGARD TO THE ARMS TRAFFICKING DESCRBIED IN THE CAPTURED DOCUMENTS MORAN SAID THAT THREE PEOPLE HAD BEEN

CAPTURED, BUT FOR REASONS OF SECURITY THEIR NAMES COULD NOT BE GIVEN. HE ALSO SAID THAT 13,000 CARTRIDGES HAD BEEN RECOVERED. IMPLICATED IN THE ARMS EXCHANGE, MORAN SAID, WAS A TREASURY POLICE EMPLOYEE. WITH REGARD TO AT LEAST SOME OF THOSE BODIES FOUND AT THE SCENE OF THE SHOOTOUT MORAN ALLEGES THAT THEY WERE CAPTURED BY TERRORISTS FROM THEIR HOMES IN OTHER LOCATIONS, KILLED AND LEFT AT THE SCENE OF THE SHOOTOUT. MORAN PROFESSED TO BELIEVE THAT MANY OF THESE WERE HONORABLE PEOPLE, MEMBERS OF AN EVANGELICAL RELIGION COMMUNITY. HE CLAIMS IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANY SUCH PEOPLE TO HAVE BEEN KILLED BY HIS "EMINENTLY PROFESSIONAL" TROOPS, WHOSE ONLY INTEREST WAS IN THE TERRORIST MEETING AND CAPTURING THOSE ATTENDING. HE SAID THAT ONLY THE WOUNDS SUFFERED BY HIS MEN AND THEIR EXHAUSTION CAUSED THEM TO RETREAT TO THEIR BARRACKS WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY OF THE TERRORISTS BEING SOUGHT.

CHAPIN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GDC/HR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 8 JUL 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED